

REMARKS

The present invention is directed to compositions and methods for the oral vaccination of healthy animals through drinking water or syrups as an aid in the prevention of disease, and is particularly applicable compositions and methods for mass vaccination.

35 U.S.C. § 112, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph Consideration/Rejection

The Examiner in the Advisory Action did not enter the amendments made in applicants' reply dated December 24, 2003, stating that the limitation "nonhuman" added to the claims was newly presented, and raised new issues requiring consideration and/or searches under 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

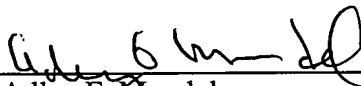
The Examiner also stated that the failure in the December 24, 2003, reply of applicant to amend the phrase "an animal" in part (c) of claim 1, after amending claim 1 to read on a "nonhuman" animal, required a new rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as claim would otherwise be indefinite and confusing. This prospective rejection is now traversed with the amendment to claim 1.

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Reconsideration of this application and the rejection of all pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the hereinabove amendment and remarks, the amendment and remarks made in applicants' "Amendment and Reply After Final Rejection", submitted December 24, 2003, (and enclosed for convenience with the RCE transmittal) and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Because the number of claims has not been changed by this amendment, it is not accompanied by a transmittal letter. If any additional fees are required by this paper or the accompanying papers, the Patent Office is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit account No. 13-1300.

Respectfully submitted,



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